

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1090
By Walker R

A RESOLUTION to honor George and Emily Kemmer of Grassy Cove upon receiving the Friends of Farming Award at the Farm Festival Luncheon at Crossville on March 31, 2004.

WHEREAS, this nation came into being as a society that was largely grounded on farming, and although the percentage of the population now engaged in that noble occupation is very small, the importance of agriculture to the well-being and security of Americans cannot be overestimated; and

WHEREAS, the great value placed upon farming by Tennesseans can be assessed by looking at the Great Seal of the State of Tennessee and its motto, "Agriculture and Commerce"; Tennesseans are keenly aware that many of the bedrock values of our State and Republic are grounded in the hard work and egalitarianism of the farming community; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of those sentiments, at the Farm Festival Luncheon held at the Community Complex in Crossville on March 31, 2004, George and Emily Kemmer of Grassy Cove were presented with the 2004 Friends of Farming Award; and

WHEREAS, in presenting the Award, Greg Upchurch, Cumberland County Extension Agent, said, "For more than half a century, George and Emily have remained a constant fixture in the farming community and one of its strongest supporters through church, Farm Bureau, 4-H, FSA, and other organizations. It's only fitting we honor two of the county's finest people."; and

WHEREAS, George Kemmer was raised in a family of nine brothers and sisters in Grassy Cove and graduated from Middle Tennessee State University in 1950 with a degree in biology and agriculture; he then returned to Grassy Cove to engage in farming with his father on the farm that his father established during the 1920's; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kemmer made his first money on the farm with sheep, but his main income source has been from the pure bred Angus cattle that he and Emily have raised; They

marketed their calves at the Cumberland County livestock producers annual feeder calf sale from its charter membership in January of 1955 through October of 2001; they also grew white corn for milling by White Lily flour in Knoxville, as well as hay and tobacco; and

WHEREAS, Emily was born and raised on a dairy farm in Bedford County, and spent two years at Tennessee Technological University before going on to graduate from the University of Tennessee with a degree in home economics; in 1951 she became the 4-H leader in Cumberland County, and four years later she married George; and

WHEREAS, in addition to farming, the Kemmers continue to operate the general store in Grassy Cove which was established in 1936 by George's father; they are the proud parents of sons Danny and Jim, both of whom are married and engaged in farming in Grassy Cove; and

WHEREAS, farm families such as George and Emily Kemmer's are the backbone of this nation and it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pause in their deliberations to celebrate the continuing vitality of the American farm; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate George and Emily Kemmer upon receiving the 2004 Friends of Farming Award, and commend and thank them for their many and valued contributions to farming in their community and this State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we offer the Kemmers our best wishes for every success and satisfaction in all their future endeavors and much happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.